

Michael F. Easley
Governor



State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

For Release: **IMMEDIATE**
Date: October 5, 2006

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GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES 25 JOBS IN JONES COUNTY ***\$100,000 One North Carolina Fund Grant Helps Bring Defense Holdings Inc. to Trenton***

RALEIGH - Gov. Mike Easley today announced that Defense Holdings Inc. will open a new operations and technology development facility in Jones County, creating 25 jobs and investing \$2 million over the next three years. The announcement was made possible in part by a \$100,000 One North Carolina Fund grant.

"Defense Holdings' decision to expand in North Carolina means more good-paying jobs for hard-working families in Jones County," Easley said. "We will continue to make the investments in education, infrastructure and workforce development so these kinds of companies continue to grow and succeed in our state."

Headquartered in Manassas, Va., Defense Holdings, also known as "DHi," is a military research and development services firm specializing in systems engineering, information science and technical program management services for the federal government. It has 54 employees in 10 locations around the United States. It will build a multipurpose facility in Trenton.

This new facility will be home to a number of business activities including; managing work for military customers throughout eastern North Carolina; conducting research and development in the use of high-performance photoluminescent materials (materials that can be seen when there is little or no light) for military and commercial applications, converting bulk photoluminescent materials into finished products, and assembling leading-edge metal fiber brush kits used in electric motors for the U.S. Navy submarine fleet.

While wages for the new jobs will vary by job function, the average weekly wage of the new jobs will be \$880 plus benefits, which is almost double the Jones County weekly average of \$488 excluding benefits. Defense Holdings will be seeking to give many of those jobs to retired veterans.

"We believe that many talented veterans and their spouses leaving the military from their last assignment in North Carolina would prefer to stay here if the right opportunities existed," said Richard J. Martin, president and CEO of Defense Holdings. "We have had great success with this model in Dover, New Hampshire and Annapolis, Maryland, and we are confident it will happen in Jones County, North Carolina."

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